

GRAYS HARBOR CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

June 2011

WELCOME!

The growing season is in full swing and the first day of summer is on the way on June 21. There are several educational events planned for this summer, so be sure to check the events section for upcoming forestry workshops. Text colored blue and underlined is clickable and will take you to a website with more information.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- ❖ The log price summary for [May 2011](#) provided by the Department of Natural Resources is now available for viewing.
- ❖ This time of year, trees are susceptible to damage by black bears. It is a good idea to check for damage throughout the season, but at the minimum at the end of the season which is usually end of July. [Click Here.](#)
- ❖ Precommercial thinning can be completed just about any time of the year, but if you are doing the work yourself, be sure you understand the basics of [felling and bucking techniques](#). See the events section for opportunities to learn more about chain saw safety.
- ❖ Visit newly planted seedlings to see if the trees are under browse pressure from deer and elk. Two repellants that have been fairly popular are [SeaDust](#) and [Plantskydd](#). Most browse activity should be declining by the end of July. Apply according to directions on new growth.
- ❖ Identify roads where work is needed, including brushing out or spraying roads to keep them functioning. Summer is the best time for road work since working on dry soils reduces compaction.
- ❖ Seedlings may be scarce again next season. Start your search for available seedlings today, download the [native plant nursery list from GHCD](#).

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IN THE NEWS

Battling giant problem

The Tri-City News, June 10th, 2011

The city of Coquitlam is once again waging war on an invasive plant that has been cropping up around Metro Vancouver since 2006, causing what city officials call a “serious threat to human health.” [Read More.](#)

Wind Farms Adapt to Forest Conditions

www.renewableenergyworld.com, June 10th, 2011

New generations of turbines with higher towers and longer blades are opening up previously impractical sites to development. [Read More.](#)

Benishek to address increasing timber harvests on federal land

www.ironmountaindailynews.com, June 10th, 2011

SAGOLA - U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek, R-Crystal Falls, conducted a "Forestry Field Tour" with the Society of American Foresters on Tuesday. Afterwards, he said his first bill would deal with timber harvests on federal land. [Read More.](#)

Agroforestry a sustainable merger to enhance land values

Western Farm Press, June 7th, 2011

USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan unveiled a plan that will help farmers, ranchers and woodland owners enhance productivity, profitability and environmental stewardship by using the practice of agroforestry. [Read More.](#)

Forests at Risk: Swiss Needle Cast Epidemic in Douglas-fir trees unprecedented, still getting worse

www.sciencedaily.com, April 12th, 2010

The Swiss needle cast epidemic in Douglas-fir forests of the coastal Pacific Northwest is continuing to intensify, appears to be unprecedented over at least the past 100 years, and is probably linked to the extensive planting of Douglas-fir along the coast and a warmer climate, new research concludes.

[Read More.](#)

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EVENTS

- June 22nd, Chimacum, WA - [Northwest Natural Resource Group](#) is offering a class from 9 am to 4:30 pm titled the "Small Woodland Entrepreneur". This workshop will introduce a range of tools, strategies and examples that forest owners can use to begin evaluating both management and small business options for their forests. Cost for non-members of Northwest Certified Forestry is \$55. Contact Kirk Hanson, 360-316-9317, kirk@nnrg.org for more information on this event.
- If you live near Everett, you may want to check the [WSU Extension calendar](#). Kevin Zobrist has several events planned this summer and fall.
- August 20th, Chimacum, WA - Forest Owners Field Day. This event will include classes and activities lead by experts in forest health, wildlife habitat, soils, fire protection, and timber and non-timber forest products. Presenters will be available to answer questions specific to your needs and situation. Youth activities are available throughout the day! Register before August 12th and save \$10. Registration fee is \$20 per person, \$30 for a family of two or more. [Download the registration brochure](#) or contact Andy Perleberg, WSU Extension Educator, at (509) 667-6540 with any questions.
- September 22 & 23rd, Oakville WA - [Northwest Natural Resource Group](#) is taking registration forms now for the "Game of Logging" two day seminar. The program combines tree felling techniques gleaned from around the world into a complete training program that will change the way you work in the woods. Cost for non-members of Northwest Certified Forestry is \$325. Contact Kirk Hanson, 360-316-9317, kirk@nnrg.org for more information on this event.
- September 24th & September 28th - [Northwest Natural Resource Group](#) is taking registration forms now for a Small Scale Logging Course, which will be offered in Vancouver as well as Oakville, WA. This training program is for woodland owners and workers who want to extract trees from their property safely and without expensive professional logging equipment. Cost for non-members of Northwest Certified Forestry is \$75. Contact Kirk Hanson, 360-316-9317, kirk@nnrg.org for more information on this event.

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Forestry Focus – Swiss Needle Cast

- Swiss needle cast (SNC) is a disease that has been getting a lot of attention along the coast of Oregon, but can also be found along the coastal areas of Washington, especially in the hemlock/spruce zone. Aerial flights have been used to map the disease in Oregon since 1996.
- The [OSU Fact Sheet](#) on Swiss Needle Cast is available for download on the Swiss Needle Cast Cooperative (SNCC) web page. The fact sheet discusses how to identify the disease and the management implications for your tree farm.
- The Washington Department of Natural Resources issued a [Forest Health Note](#) on the disease in 2009.
- Although the disease does not commonly kill trees, it does result in decreased foliage and therefore reduces the photosynthetic capacity of the tree, leading to a reduction in growth.
- If you are interested in learning more about SNC, there is a long list of [publications](#) on the SNCC web page.



Poor needle retention of the previous years needles is one indication of the presence of Swiss Needle Cast. Refer to the [OSU Fact Sheet](#) for more information on identifying the disease.